

Application number 10/750,175
Amendment dated March 19, 2007
Reply to office action mailed September 19, 2006T

PATENT

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 1-26 will be pending in this application. Claims 8, 13, and 15-20 have been amended. New claims 21-26 have been added.

Claims 8 and 13 are objected to and claims 8, 9, 10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 8 and 13 have been appropriately amended. Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claim 15 has been appropriately amended. Claims 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Herron et al., United States patent number 6,996,758. (Herron) Claims 4-7, 11-14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herron in view of Kiryu, United States patent application number 2005/0138509. Reconsideration of these objections and rejections in light of these amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Herron. But Herron does not teach each and every element of this claim. For example, claim 1 recites “a test configuration adapted to configure the set of functional blocks to implement a set of boundary scan registers connected with the interface connections of the IP core.” Herron does not provide this feature.

The pending office action cites Herron, column 23, lines 30-32 as providing this feature. (See pending office action, page 6, line 5.) This passage teaches forming a scan chain, but is silent in regards to the composition of the scan chain.

However, in other passages, Herron teaches forming a scan chain using latches, not registers. For example, Figure 24 of Herron shows a scan chain 2408 that is formed using a series of latches. (See Herron, Figure 24 and column 15, lines 56-57.) Thus, the scan chain taught by Herron is formed using latches, not registers. Accordingly, Herron does not provide configuring functional blocks to implement a set of boundary scan registers, as is required by the claim.

For at least this reason, claim 1 should be allowed.

Other claims

Claims 8 and 15 should be allowed for similar reasons as claim 1. The other claims depend on one of the above claims and should be allowed for at least the same reasons and for the additional limitations they recite.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal notice of allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments
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